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March 8, 2011

Governor Rick Snyder
State Representative Ken Horn
State Representative Roy Schmidt
State Senator Mike Nofs
State Senator Hoon-Yung Hopgood

Dear Governor Snyder and Legislative Leaders:

As you know, Michigan families communicate much differently today than days gone by. The rate of telephone land lines in our homes is decreasing at an accelerated pace, and technology improvements have given us the ability to communicate where ever we are in the world.

Unfortunately, the Michigan Telecommunications Act has not kept pace with technology and is now outdated. So, today, we are joining communities across Michigan to ask the Michigan Legislature to work together and modernize the state's Michigan Telecommunications Act (MTA) in an effort to stimulate economic growth and attract investment for Michigan.

In 2005, the Michigan Legislature updated portions of the MTA, sending the signal to the rest of the nation that they were serious about jobs and innovation. The reform they crafted made Michigan a national leader in the fight for telecommunications growth and created significant investment right here in the Great Lakes State. But it ended there.

Other competitor states have enacted much more progressive reforms and we believe it's time for Michigan to update our telecommunications law. And, in the spirit of reinvention, making these critical reforms is not expected to increase costs.

We join you in your quest to reinvent Michigan by eliminating roadblocks to investment and innovation. We urge you to modernize the state's telecommunications law this year and make Michigan a national leader once again.

Sincerely,

JoAnn Crary, CEcD
President